

# Rome – The Modern-Day Center of Roman Catholicism

## Suggested Pilgrimage #1 (6 nights/8 days)

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**Day 1 Monday**

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Depart via scheduled air service. The destination is Rome, Italy

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**Day 2 Tuesday Rome (D)**

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Arrive in Rome

Meet your Faith Journeys Tour Manager who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for a transfer to the hotel for check-in

Afternoon at leisure for relaxation, sightseeing, shopping, or other activities

Celebrate Mass in the community of our fellow pilgrims

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

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**Day 3 Wednesday Rome (B,D)**

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Breakfast at the hotel

This morning, we will visit Vatican City to attend an Audience/Blessing with our Holy Father (if available), then tour the Vatican Museums, which house what can be described as the most important collections of art in the world, including The Sistine Chapel

Lunch, on own

Visit St. Peter's Basilica. Marvel at Bernini's beautiful bronze canopy and Michelangelo's Blessed Mother, known as the Pieta

Enjoy time at leisure for additional sightseeing, shopping, or other activities

Evening dinner and overnight

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**Day 4 Thursday Rome (B,D)**

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Breakfast at the hotel

Our day begins with Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major. We will also visit the Basilica of St. John Lateran, which is the oldest of the major basilicas and ranks first as the actual "parish church" of the Pope. We will learn about the Scala Sancta (Holy Stairs). Tradition has it that these steps are sanctified by the footsteps of Jesus Christ during his Passion

Lunch, on own

Next, we will see the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls which was founded by Roman Emperor Constantine I over the burial place of Saint Paul. Other sites we will see are the Appian Way, the Baths of Caracalla, the Arch of Drusus, and the ancient catacombs of Rome

Evening dinner and overnight

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**Day 5 Friday Rome / Montecassino / Pompeii (B,D)**

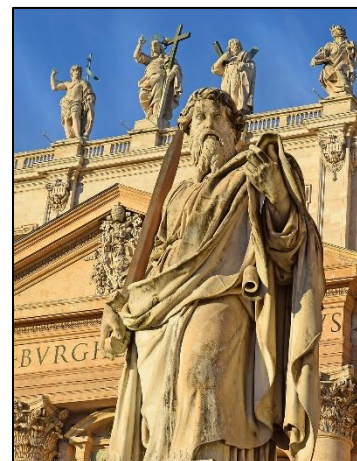
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Breakfast at the hotel

This morning we will drive to the Abbey of Monte Cassino where St. Benedict established his first monastery, the source of the Benedictine Order, around 529. Upon arrival, we will celebrate Mass.

Lunch, on own

We will continue on bus to Pompeii to witness the ruins of one of the most devastating volcanic eruptions in the history of the region. What is left of the



city, including beautiful frescoes and mosaic floors, will give us a glimpse into that era and an idea of what was going on in the lives of Pompeii's inhabitants moments before that catastrophic eruption  
Return to Rome for evening dinner and overnight

**Day 6      Saturday                                  Rome                                  (B)**

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Breakfast at the hotel  
Enjoy the morning at leisure for additional sightseeing, shopping, or other activities  
Lunch, on own  
Enjoy the afternoon at leisure for additional sightseeing, shopping, or other activities. For those not opting for the sightseeing tours, our local guide will advise you of the possibilities of Mass at nearby churches  
Dinner on own and overnight



**Day 7      Sunday                                  Assisi                                  (B,D)**

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Breakfast at the hotel  
We will travel to Assisi, the site of many a pilgrimage which lies in the Umbria region of Italy on the eastern flank of Monte Subasio. While in Assisi, we celebrate Mass and explore the huge 13<sup>th</sup>-century basilica which contains many of the possessions of St. Francis  
Lunch, on own  
We will also visit the church of Santa Maria Maggiore, the earliest extant church in Assisi, as well as the Basilica of Santa Chiara, where St. Clare who founded the Order of Poor Clares, followed in the humble ways of St. Francis. We end our tour of Assisi by visiting the tombs of St. Francis and St. Clare  
Return to Rome for evening dinner and overnight



**Day 8      Monday                                  Depart for home                                  (B)**

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Breakfast at the hotel  
Transfer to Rome's airport for return flight



***This is a very flexible itinerary.*** Except for confirmed appointments, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable

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